

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of obtaining desired delivery times from intended recipients of items, comprising:

electronically ~~identifying causing display of~~, via one or more processors, a plurality of time windows from which a recipient may select a time for delivery of an item, wherein said plurality of time windows includes (a) at least two sequential time windows and (b) at least one overlapping time window that overlaps a portion of each of the sequential time windows; ~~[[and]]~~

electronically causing display of the plurality of time windows from which a recipient may select a time for delivery of an item; and

electronically receiving, via the one or more processors, as input from the recipient a selection from the plurality of time windows.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of obtaining desired delivery times as defined in Claim 1, wherein said causing display of step includes causing display of a plurality of time windows that include at least two sequential one hour time windows and at least one overlapping time window that overlaps each of the sequential time windows by one-half hour.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of obtaining desired delivery times from intended recipients of items, comprising:

electronically identifying, via one or more processors, a plurality of time windows;

electronically applying, via the one or more processors, predetermined parameters to said plurality of time windows to identify a subset of time windows of said plurality of time windows to offer to recipients as available times for delivery, wherein the subset of time windows includes (a) at least two sequential time windows and (b) at least one overlapping time window that overlaps a portion of each of the sequential time windows;

electronically causing display of, via the one or more processors, said subset of time windows from which a recipient may select a time for delivery of an item; and

electronically receiving, via the one or more processors, as input from a recipient a selection of a time window from said subset of said plurality of time windows.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of obtaining desired delivery times as defined in Claim 9, wherein said causing display of step includes causing display of a plurality of time windows that include at least two sequential two hour time windows and at least one overlapping time window that overlaps each of the sequential time windows by one hour.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of delivering items, comprising:

electronically causing display of, via one or more processors, offers of delivery items for sale to recipients;

electronically identifying, via the one or more processors, a plurality of time windows;

electronically applying, via the one or more processors, predetermined parameters to the plurality of time windows to identify a subset of time windows of the plurality of time windows to offer to recipients as available times for delivery, wherein the subset of time windows includes (a) at least two sequential time windows and (b) at least one overlapping time window that overlaps a portion of each of the sequential time windows;

electronically causing display of, via the one or more processors, the subset of time windows from which a recipient may select a time for delivery of an item; and

electronically receiving, via the one or more processors, as input from the recipient a selection from said subset of said plurality of time windows.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of delivering items as defined in Claim 16, wherein said applying step includes determining which time windows of said plurality of time windows have associated with them the least cost of service in making the delivery.

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of delivering items as defined in Claim 20, wherein said applying step includes determining whether the cost of delivering the item within a time window of said plurality is less than a monetary threshold.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method for implementing an on-line program for delivering items, comprising:

electronically causing display of, via one or more processors, an Internet webpage accessible to at least one user for on-line interactive communications between the user and the Internet webpage;

electronically ~~identifying causing display of, via the Internet webpage,~~ a plurality of available time windows for delivery, wherein the plurality of time windows includes (a) at least two sequential time windows and (b) at least one overlapping time window that overlaps a portion of each of the sequential time windows; ~~[[and]]~~

electronically causing display of, via the Internet webpage, the plurality of available time windows for delivery; and

electronically receiving, via the one or more processors, delivery time window selections as input made by the user.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method for implementing an on-line program for delivering items as defined in Claim 24 further comprising determining, via a scheduling engine, whether a maximum number of orders to be delivered within one of said plurality of time windows has been reached.

30. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method for implementing an on-line program for delivering items as defined in Claim 24 further comprising determining, via a routing engine, an optimum delivery route for delivering the item to the user.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method of displaying delivery time windows to a recipient, said method comprising the steps of:

electronically identifying, via one or more processors, a plurality of time windows in which a delivery may be made to a recipient;

electronically applying, via one or more processors, predetermined parameters to the plurality of time windows to identify a subset of time windows of the plurality of time windows to offer to the recipient as available times for delivery, wherein the subset of time windows includes (a) at least two sequential time windows and (b) at least one overlapping time window that overlaps a portion of each of the sequential time windows; ~~[[and]]~~

responsive to applying predetermined parameters, causing display of, via the one or more processors, a subset of time windows of the plurality of time windows as being available for delivery~~[[.]]; and~~

electronically receiving delivery time window selections as input made by a user.